

Message Text

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62

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 /087 W

----- 070155

R 071600Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8706

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS KARACHI 0414

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, ENRG, PK

SUBJECT: DRILLING OPERATIONS STARTED BY TWO

AMERICAN OIL EXPLORATION FIRMS ALONG

BALUCHISTAN COAST

1. I HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED BY MANAGING DIRECTOR CHAUDHRY OF CONTINENTAL-WINTERSHALL (CW) THAT DRILLING BARGE "WODCO NO. 3," OWNED BY WESTERN OFFSHORE DRILLING COMPANY AND UNDER LEASE TO CW, ARRIVED AT KARACHI HARBOR A FEW DAYS AGO FROM PREVIOUS DRILLING SITE AT LAVAN ISLAND ON PERSIAN SIDE OF GULF. AFTER TAKING ON SUPPLIES SHE WAS TOWED TO DRILL SITE ALONG BALUCHISTAN COAST ABOUT FIFTY MILES WSW OF KARACHI (SOME 25 MILES FROM LAST CW DRILL SITE). ON MARCH 4 "WODCO NO. 3" SPUNDED IN. Owing TO HER LATE ARRIVAL AND IMMINENCE OF MONSOON SEASON, SHE WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO COMPLETE PRESENT HOLE BEFORE ROUGH SEAS WILL FORCE TERMINATION OF DRILLING FOR THIS SEASON. BARGE WILL THEN GO BACK TO PERSIAN GULF FOR FURTHER DRILLING

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AND RETURN TO CW CONCESSION AREA AT END OF MONSOON

SEASON IN FALL OF 1975.

2. SAME DAY "WODCO NO. 3" SPUPDED IN, MARATHON
ALSO COMMENCED DRILLING OPERATIONS A FEW MILES IN-
LAND FROM BALUCHISTAN COAST NEAR PORT OF GWADAR.
MARATHON PLANNING DRILLING INAUGURATION CEREMONIES AND
ATTENDANT PUBLICITY AT LATER DATE WHEN DRILLING ROUTINE ESTABLISHED
AND APPROPRIATE HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS CAN BE INVITED TO GRACE
CEREMONIES.
BRYANT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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